

AN AMERICAN FAILING.

Englishman Says We Don't Speak Well of Our Wealthy People.

Walter D. Callan, a resident of Stratford-on-Avon, recently visiting relatives in Washington, in conversation with a Star reporter, he said: "I can't understand your American newspapers. They understand the Constitution. It went on to say that 6,000 Americans visited Shakespeare's birthplace every year, and I find that most of them were of the suddenly rich class who go to Europe because it is the fashion, while the fact was that they did not know the difference between the Clarendon stone and the Koh-i-noor, or the Tower of London and a hole in the ground, while few of them had ever read even much as a page of Shakespeare's writing."

"I have lived at Stratford-on-Avon for several years, and I know I express the opinion of the entire community when I say that the shrines of the immortal genius are more intelligent and appreciative and more familiar, not only with the writings, but with the vagaries of the world of men, than any other class of the people who come to it, not even excepting our own people. I can't for the life of me see why American newspapers are continually running down their own country."

"It seems to be particularly delightful to the average American to prefer writing in the ink mud at his successful fellow-citizens, who are fortunate enough to enjoy the leisure that wealth affords. The very best of the papers made up the stories in his reports about the vulgarities of the American well-to-do classes, and then see similar stories printed in the papers in the United States, expects when he comes to this country, to find the tawdry and the make-believe overtopping all else. He is greatly surprised to find that nearly all the journals of the world, nor those on this side of the water correctly represent the better class of Americans. He is also convinced that the majority of the better American homes and the people who occupy them is not to be surpassed by the aristocracy of any older nation."

"And when my appreciation of the better things of life among those who can afford to enjoy them. But I was amazed at the way these people live. I never saw a more cultured people in my life. Their society is charming; their homes are superb. When I go back to America with my money, I will be vastly changed. But I don't understand the way your newspapers invariably sneer at everything American after the great money and success of the man of culture, the satisfaction of a cultivated taste. They should be called down, as the saying is here, and be taught that a person may be poor and yet be an ignorant fool, but because he is poor, he is to be worth \$35,000 or \$40,000 more."

DIAMONDS IN THIS COUNTRY.

Those Found Are Mostly of Meteors' Origin.

Though diamonds will never be an important product of the United States, they are being picked up here and there, such vast quantities of them are consumed here that the geographical survey has thought it worth while to print a note on the subject, which will soon be issued.

The fact has been established, says the Providence Journal, that the supposed diamonds found in meteorites falling in the place whence the meteorites came are not such. This is a matter of profound interest, indicating as it does that such stones exist on the earth, and that the surveyors assert that diamonds like coal, which is so nearly of the same chemical constitution, could not possibly come into existence from any vegetal growth.

For this reason they infer that the finding of the gems in the meteorites proves that they were formed in the sun, in the place whence the meteorites came. If there was vegetable life there, it is a fair presumption that there was animal life there, too. This is the first time it affords the first guess glimpse ever obtained into the greatest problem that mankind has attempted to handle—namely, whether life exists in other worlds than ours.

It seems strange to take a couple of ounces of charcoal in one hand and to hold the other in handling the pure material of the diamond. If you could transform it into crystalline form, you could sell those few pieces of stardust for \$10,000 per carat, and the gemologists are eager to discover the secret of effecting this change. To assert that they will not succeed is absurd. The value of the volatile battery real diamonds of almost microscopic size have been deposited by the hand of platinium.

But even if the most useful process should be discovered it might be that the cost of making a diamond by it would be bigger than the sum of a dozen of the original sizes and parts from the earth. One needs the experiments of Prof. Sage, who turned out gold pieces in his laboratory from what was extracted from the ashes of certain burnt vegetable remains. The result was beautiful, scientifically speaking, but the expense of making this way is 50 per cent.

The value of rough gems of all sorts produced in this country in 1893 was \$6,000 less than the output for the year before, amounting to only \$20,000. The decrease was mainly due to the industrial depression. The precious stones of the United States are sold in large part to tourists, who purchase them as souvenirs of localities visited.

A FISHHAWK'S MISTAKE.

The Bird's Keen Eye Deceived in This Case.

Fishhawks get their entire food supply from the water. They are so constructed that even at great heights they can see fish that swim near the surface, and when the fish are taken to the nest of the bird before being eaten, says the Philadelphia Times. The bird, however, had made a mistake and eaten a big catfish when the crab got both his big claws fairly at work on the tender part of the bird's body, and was soon forced to drop the crab, but it is not often they get fooled. It is generally all in their favor. A hawk may fly away with a big fish, but a fishhawk could not hold thirty second with both hands.

The hawk sometimes, however, will do as the hawk they do not want, and a hawk occurred a few years ago which is worth telling.

A steamer was passing Seabright. It was a big coaster from Savannah, Ga., to New York, and a passenger, a boy, a handsome and valuable lace shawl, which floated away after striking the water. The passengers, being interested, watched the boy, and when he finally saw it, and, finally, saw a fishhawk dive at it, get it fast to his claws and fly away with it. The lad was very much put out, and, after thinking and advertising a reward for the same, a fisherman took a notion he could get the shawl after hearing the circumstances, and with a bold heart started off in a boat to every fishhawk he saw in the country immediately back of Seabright. The shawl was found hanging on the side of a rock, the white bird having little silver. What the boy wanted with the shawl is hard to say, but they use no such thing in building their nests.

L. A. LINDE.

Joe, son of a prominent lawyer, a graduate of Princeton, has a large fortune, and failed to bring him at other academies, and latest fashionable dances thoroughly up to date. He is a good boy, and his parents derive infinite private lessons with him.

MISS M'CABE'S.

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